

**REPORT/RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
OF SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA  
AND RECORD OF ACTION**

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February 24, 2004

**FROM:** KEN A. MILLER, Director,  
Department of Public Works – Solid Waste Management Division

**SUBJECT: AMENDMENT NO. 15 TO CONTRACT NO. 01-237 WITH BURRTEC WASTE INDUSTRIES, INC.**

**RECOMMENDATIONS:** Approve Amendment No. 15 to Contract No. 01-237 with Burrtec Waste Industries, Inc. ("Burrtec"), for an amount not to exceed \$795,000, to provide additional handling and disposal services for Bark Beetle related wood waste brought to the Heaps Peak Transfer Station.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:** On March 27, 2001, the Board approved Contract No. 01-237 with Burrtec for the operations and maintenance of San Bernardino County active and inactive landfills and transfer stations beginning July 1, 2001. The Board has approved fourteen (14) previous amendments to the contract.

On May 6, 2003, the Board approved Amendment No. 7 to Contract No. 01-237 which allowed Burrtec to provide handling services for Bark Beetle related wood waste brought to the Heaps Peak Transfer Station [HPTS] and required Burrtec to dispose of such waste outside of the County's Solid Waste Disposal System. Amendment No. 7 provided that Burrtec would be compensated under the terms of Contract No. 01-237 as though the Bark Beetle related wood waste was being handled and disposed of within the County Solid Waste Disposal System as any other solid waste delivered to the Heaps Peak Transfer Station (with certain technical exceptions), in the not to exceed amount of \$476,800 for a maximum of 16,000 tons. Because of the significant amount of wood waste being generated in the local mountains, the Board approved four additional amendments (No's. 9, 11, 12 and 13) to the contract for additional handling services related to Bark Beetle wood waste, totaling \$2,416,289, for an additional 86,837 tons. Amendment No. 12 also added the Big Bear transfer Station [BBTS] as a site for handling Bark Beetle wood waste.

A site near Lake Arrowhead has been set-up for the incineration of wood waste related to the Bark Beetle infestation and the facility has been operating on a 6 day-a-week, 24 hours-a-day schedule since the first week of August 2003. Even with this facility running at full capacity, there continues to be a need for additional handling and disposal services by Burrtec.

Approval of this proposed Amendment No. 15 to Contract No. 01-237 will again increase the maximum compensation payable to Burrtec to provide additional handling services for Bark Beetle related wood waste brought to the HPTS. Burrtec will be compensated for handling up to

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an additional 30,000 tons of Bark Beetle related wood waste, at the rate of \$26.50 per ton, in the not to exceed amount of \$795,000. The rate is subject to annual adjustment per Article 5 of Contract No. 01-237. Approval of Amendment No. 15 would result in a total cost of \$3,603,089 for handling and disposal services by Burrtec for Bark Beetle related wood waste brought to the HPTS since May 2003, and a total approved tonnage of 129,801 tons. SWMD staff estimates that the amount requested in Amendment No. 15 will cover costs through April 2004 for additional handling and disposal services for Bark Beetle related wood waste brought to the HPTS.

At this time it is anticipated that there is no need to increase the dollar amount [\$85,000] and tonnage [3,036 tons] previously approved for the BBTS under Amendment No. 12 to Burrtec Contract No. 01-237, and that those amounts will also cover costs through April 2004 for handling and disposal services for Bark Beetle related wood waste brought to the BBTS.

SWMD is requesting approval of this amendment due to the significant amounts of bark beetle wood waste continuing to be generated, along with the need to dispose of this waste outside the County Solid Waste Disposal System. This amendment will benefit the community by continuing to provide an outlet for the disposal of Bark Beetle related wood waste while preserving landfill space within the County's Solid Waste Disposal System. With approval of this action, the total amount of all amendments to Contract No. 01-237 with Burrtec for handling and disposal services related to bark beetle wood waste will be \$3,688,089.

Effective January 19, 2004, bark beetle debris was subject to the regular tipping fee of \$35.34 per ton. SWMD staff is monitoring the effect of this fee on the bark beetle related wood waste tonnage coming into the County's Solid Waste Disposal System and will make specific recommendations to the Board regarding the this fee in approximately three months.

**REVIEW AND APPROVAL BY OTHERS:** This item was reviewed by Deputy County Counsel Robert L. Jocks, 387-5435, on February 3, 2004; and the County Administrative Office (Tom Forster, Administrative Analyst, 387-4635) on February 11, 2004.

**FINANCIAL IMPACT:** The cost of services under this Amendment will not exceed \$795,000, and will be financed from SWMD's Enterprise Fund [Fund: EAA, Dept: SWM, Org: OPS, Object: 2445]. Effective January 19, 2004 bark beetle debris was subject to the regular tipping fee of \$35.34 per ton. The additional revenue to the Solid Waste Enterprise Fund from the estimated 30,000 tons of bark beetle debris is estimated to be \$1,060,200. This revenue is more than sufficient to offset the cost of this amendment. The remaining revenue will be used for capital projects or other solid waste expenditures as approved by the Board.

**COST REDUCTION REVIEW:** The County Administrative Office has reviewed this agenda item and concurs with the Department's proposal and recommends this action based on the following: a state of emergency exists in the local mountains due to the existence of thousands of acres of dead, dying, and diseased trees that pose a significant fire threat. This Amendment will allow for continued handling and disposal of a significant portion of the Bark Beetle related wood waste while preserving space within the County's Solid Waste Disposal System.

**SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT(S):** All

**PRESENTER:** Peter H. Wulfman, 386-8703